

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 08098.0011
Customer Number: 22,852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Inventors: Dennis MENDIOLA et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit:

Filed: May 2, 2001

Examiner:

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INVITING AND CREATING ACCOUNTS
FOR PROSPECTIVE USERS OF AN INSTANT MESSAGING SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following new paragraph:

This application claims the priority of International Application No.

PCT/SG00/00070, filed May 12, 2000 and the benefit of U.S. provisional application
number 60/203,928, filed May 12, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend now pending claims 3-5, 7-10, and 13-20 with the following
complete set of claims:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said computer network is the internet and/or any direct electronic link.
4. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the prospective user has an email-based client application for accessing the IM system.
5. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the prospective user has a GSM device forming part of a GSM network for accessing the IM system.
7. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of said IM server.
8. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of a registered user on said IM server.
9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said email or SMS message is sent by said prospective server.
10. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said client specific address is sourced from a message sent to said IM server from a registered user of said IM system, on any client type accessible to said IM server.
13. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said computer network is the internet and/or any direct electronic link.
14. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the prospective user has an email-based client application for accessing the IM system.

15. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the prospective user has a GSM device forming part of a GSM network for accessing the IM system.
16. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said GSM network has SMS capability and said prospective user is initially connected to an SMSC server to control and manage said SMS therebetween, and wherein said SMSC server is directly connected to said IM server via said computer network.
17. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of said IM server.
18. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of a registered user on said IM server.
19. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said email or SMS message is sent by said prospective user.
20. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said client specific address is sourced from a message sent to said IM server from a registered user of said IM system, on any client type accessible to said IM server.

REMARKS

The presentation of a clean set of claims is permitted under new rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121 (c)(3), effective November 7, 2000. An amended form of claims 3-5 is attached for the Examiner's convenience pursuant to new rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121 (c)(1)(ii). No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this preliminary amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: David W. Hill
David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

Date: May 2, 2001
DWH/FPD/peg

ANNEXES TO THE PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants submit the following claims with strikeouts and underlining for the Examiner's convenience as required by new rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121 (c)(1)(ii).

This paper is not intended to be entered.

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said computer network is the internet and/or any direct electronic link.
4. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the prospective user has an email-based client application for accessing the IM system.
5. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the prospective user has a GSM device forming part of a GSM network for accessing the IM system.
7. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of said IM server.
8. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of a registered user on said IM server.
9. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~, wherein said email or SMS message is sent by said prospective server.

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10. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said client specific address is sourced from a message sent to said IM server from a registered user of said IM system, on any client type accessible to said IM server.
13. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 7 ~~or 8~~, wherein said computer network is the internet and/or any direct electronic link.
14. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, wherein the prospective user has an email-based client application for accessing the IM system.
15. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, wherein the prospective user has a GSM device forming part of a GSM network for accessing the IM system.
16. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, wherein said GSM network has SMS capability and said prospective user is initially connected to an SMSC server to control and manage said SMS therebetween, and wherein said SMSC server is directly connected to said IM server via said computer network.
17. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 7, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of said IM server.
18. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 7, wherein said client specific address is sourced from an email or SMS message sent to the email address of a registered user on said IM server.
19. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein said email or SMS message is sent by said prospective user.

20. (Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 17, wherein said client specific address is sourced from a message sent to said IM server from a registered user of said IM system, on any client type accessible to said IM server.